



**St Anne's
College**
University of Oxford

2023 - 2024



**ST ANNE'S
COLLEGE,
OXFORD**

**OUTREACH AND ACCESS
SCHOOL WORKSHOPS**

**OUTREACH@ST-ANNES.OX.AC.UK
+44 (0)1865 274825**



OUR AIMS

St Anne's College aims to be the home of choice for the brightest and most ambitious students from all backgrounds. Working with our link regions of **Hillingdon and Southwark** in London, and the **North East of England**, we aim to encourage and support all students - particularly those from backgrounds currently under-represented at Oxford - to make competitive applications to the University.

As part of our commitment to widening access to the University of Oxford, we prioritise running activities with state schools in our link regions. We also encourage our schools to bring groups where at least 50% of attendees are on Free Schools Meals or First Generation to Higher Education.

THE TEAM

HANNAH SNELL, SENIOR OUTREACH OFFICER

Hannah attended a state school in Derbyshire before studying Classical Archaeology and Ancient History at Oxford (BA and MPhil). She spent 5 years working at a Sixth Form in Southwark before returning to the University in 2019 to work in access and outreach. She enjoys baking, hiking and writing the novel she will never finish!

Hannah is on maternity leave until Spring 2024

JACKIE WATSON, OUTREACH OFFICER



Jackie joined St Anne's after teaching in state schools, most recently as Head of Sixth Form and careers at a large comprehensive in Oxford. She studied English Language and Literature at Oxford, then did a PhD in English at Birkbeck College in London. She continues her research, and enjoys reading, going to the theatre and looking after a very grumpy cat...

GEORGE HOBART, OUTREACH OFFICER



George attended a state comprehensive school in Hertfordshire before studying Physics and Philosophy at Oxford from 2019-2023. As a recent graduate he is an expert in Oxford student life both pre- and post-pandemic, so as well as his outreach capacities, he has an in-depth knowledge of the Oxford student experience. He is looking to do a PhD in Physics and continues thinking about the Philosophy of Physics.

OXFORD
for North
East

OXFORD FOR NORTH EAST

St Anne's College also works alongside colleagues at Christ Church and Trinity College as part of the **Oxford for North East Consortium**.

We regularly run events in the region for **schools, student groups, teachers, parents and community groups**.

You are welcome to contact St Anne's College directly with any enquiries, or to approach the whole Consortium:

oxfordfornortheast@admin.ox.ac.uk

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KEY STAGE 2 AND 3



HIGHER EDUCATION EXPLAINED

In this session we aim to:

- Understand the difference between school and university
- Find out what studying at university is like
- Learn about what studying at Oxford is like
- Discover some of the courses on offer at university

Recommended for Year 6-8, up to 1 hour
Online or in school

**"See you again
in 7 years!"**

Year 6 Student
Ark Globe Academy

**"Excellent day - the pupils
were so engaged and
absolutely loved being here -
thank you!"**

KS2 Teacher

VISIT TO OXFORD

A typical Key Stage 2/3 visit may involve:

- Welcome and Higher Education Explained Talk from the Outreach Officer
- Tours of the college from Student Ambassadors
- Q&A with Student Ambassadors
- Carousel of short academic taster sessions delivered by students, tutors and outreach staff **OR**
- Guided museum visit and activity
- Refreshments and a sandwich lunch in college
- Evaluation activity

In Oxford - c.4 hours duration

We can develop bespoke visits if you would like to focus on a particular subject area, or if you would like sessions working on particular skills, such as oracy.



EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

We are pleased to work with MATs, or other external organisations, such as The Brilliant Club and IntoUniversity, to host visits to the college for Key Stage 2 and 3 students. We are also very happy to develop new contacts and relationships for online and in-person activities.

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UNIVERSITY AND FUTURE CHOICES



In this session we aim to:

- Find out more about different universities, including the Russell Group
- Find out why someone might apply to university
- Learn more about studying at Oxford University
- Understand the costs associated with university
- Discover some of the courses on offer at university
- Think about ways of preparing for university study

Recommended for Year 9-10, 1 hour
Online or in school

"I really enjoyed learning about the different subjects and why people go to university."

Year 8 Student
The Charter School
East Dulwich

97% of students agreed or strongly agreed that now know more about what it would be like to be a student at the University of Oxford

2021-22 KS4 Feedback

WHY UNIVERSITY, WHY OXFORD

In this session we aim to:

- Find out more about competitive universities and what they are looking for in applicants
- Learn more about studying and being a student at the University of Oxford
- Understand the costs associated with university
- Find out more about university courses and specific subjects required to study them
- Explore super-curricular activities to prepare for university study



Recommended for Year 10-11, 1 hour
Online or in school

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KEY STAGE 3 AND 4



EXPLORE WORKSHOP

This super-curricular workshop introduces a question from the [Explore website](#) and provides resources for students to either have a **classroom debate** facilitated by the Outreach Officer, **or to produce their own Explore question.**

Skills include: exploring a new topic critically, creating an evidence-based argument, developing verbal confidence, making links with curriculum subjects, and thinking outside of the classroom.

Recommended for Year 9-13, 1 hour
Online or in school

"It has made me think really seriously about going to Oxford."

Year 10 student,
Compass School

"The day was highly organised, very informative, thank you so much for your support."

Teacher

VISIT TO OXFORD: DISCOVERY DAY

A typical Key Stage 3/4 visit may involve:

- Welcome and Oxford Explained Talk from the Outreach Officer
- Tours of the college from Student Ambassadors
- Q&A with Student Ambassadors
- Carousel of short academic taster sessions delivered by students, tutors and outreach staff **OR**
- Guided museum visit and activity
- Refreshments and a sandwich lunch in college
- Evaluation activity

In Oxford - c.4 hours duration

We are happy to develop visit days to focus on specific subject areas (involving visits to departments) or on particular skills (such as making presentations or debating). We can work with students in school ahead of the visit to develop skills.



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KEY STAGE 5

MAKING A COMPETITIVE APPLICATION

In this session we aim to:

- Consider what competitive universities are looking for in applicants
- Find out more about being a student at Oxford
- Understand the costs associated with university
- Consider courses on offer at Oxford
- Learn more about the Oxbridge application process and its admission stages
- Consider ways of exploring subjects outside of the classroom

**Recommended for Year 12,
1 hour or 90mins with Student Q&A
Online or in school**



"I found the ideas of how to research and learn more about your subject useful as well as the information about financial support"

Year 12 Student
Whitley Bay High School

96% of students agreed or strongly agreed that they understand the Oxford application process more clearly

2021-22 KS5 Feedback

SUPER-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WORKSHOP

In this session we aim to:

- Understand the difference between extra-curricular and super-curricular activities
- Link super-curricular activities with competitive university applications
- Explore the range of activities that can be super-curricular
- Gain confidence in finding relevant super-curricular activities



**Suitable for Year 11-12, 1 hour
Online or in school**

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PERSONAL STATEMENT WORKSHOP

In this session we aim to:

- Understand the Oxbridge application process
- Explore what competitive universities value in a personal statement
- Reflect on students' interest in their subject and their super-curricular activities
- Clarify top tips for writing a personal statement
- Examine some case studies

**Recommended for Year 12-13,
1 hour presentation, or 90 mins as a workshop,
developing students' statements
Online or in school**



"Evaluating the different personal statements was useful as I was able to see what I should and shouldn't include."

Year 12 Student
The Charter School,
North Dulwich

"I found the activities useful because they forced me to come up with an answer, even if I was not sure."

Year 12 Student
Kingsdale Foundation School

ADMISSIONS TEST WORKSHOP

In this session we aim to:

- Understand the Oxbridge admissions process
- Clarify how Admissions Tests are used in the application process
- Explore ways of preparing for different admissions tests
- Examine how to approach particular past paper questions and gain confidence answering them
- Know where to go for more resources

**Suitable for Year 12-13, 1 hour
Online or in school**



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INTERVIEW SKILLS WORKSHOP

In this session we aim to:

- Clarify the Oxbridge admissions process, how interviews are used, and what to expect
- Explore past interview questions and approaches to answering them
- Gain confidence and skills in answering unseen interview questions
- Understand further ways of preparing for interviews

Recommended for Year 13, 60-90mins
Online or in school



"It gave me a much better idea of what the application process would look like and what an interview would be like."

Year 13 Student
Newcastle Sixth Form College

100% of school staff strongly agreed that they would like to bring their students on a trip to St Anne's College again.

VISIT TO OXFORD: TASTER DAY

A typical Key Stage 5 visit may involve:

- Welcome and Competitive Applications Talk from the Outreach Officer
- Tour of the college from Student Ambassadors
- Q&A with Student Ambassadors
- Choice of academic taster sessions with Oxford staff (depending on availability)
- Refreshments and a sandwich lunch in college
- Second college tour
- Evaluation activity

In Oxford - c.4 hours duration



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TEACHER IAG

These workshops can cover a range of topics, depending on your needs, and may be particularly suitable for Heads of Year, Sixth Form Staff, Sixth Form tutors and subject champions.

Content can include:

- Overview of the Oxbridge application process
- Writing competitive personal statements
- Writing school references
- Preparing for admissions tests
- Interview skills and preparation
- Supporting Oxbridge applicants
- Gaining feedback for applicants



Online or in school, 1 hour (can be split into multiple sessions)

We are keen to work with teachers across schools, where possible - a group from a MAT or local schools. If you are interested in joining with other schools to work on programmes for more able students, please let us know.

"I enjoyed the day especially the biscuits and desserts at the canteen. I enjoyed heading to the museum as well... thank you for the day :)"

Year 10 Student
Bishopshalt School

98% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they understood better what top universities were looking for in their applicants

2021-22 KS5 Feedback

ARRANGING WORKSHOPS

Where possible and, depending on availability, we would strongly recommend booking a programme of events for your students across the school year:

e.g. Year 12 Competitive Applications in the spring term, Year 12 Personal Statements in June, Year 13 Admissions Tests in July/September, Interview Skills in October/November.

We also strongly encourage teachers to bring at least 50% of participants from Widening Participation backgrounds e.g. FSM, First Generation to university etc. on visits to the University of Oxford.

We can be flexible around the school day in arranging sessions with you.

If a visit the university would be difficult financially for your school, please get in contact.

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AIM FOR OXFORD (NORTH EAST)

Aim for Oxford is our sustained contact programme for Year 12 students from state schools in the North East of England, run jointly with Christ Church and Trinity Colleges.

After being selected for the programme, participants will:

- Explore subjects with university researchers through academic taster sessions
- Attend workshops on the application stages
- Be invited to attend a free week-long residential in Oxford
- Receive ongoing support from current students and outreach staff through Year 13 and university applications.

For more information, please see the website:

<https://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/study-here/undergraduate/working-with-schools/aim-for-oxford/>

We also run an annual residential for North East students in Year 12 to coincide with Oxford's summer Open Days in collaboration with our Oxford for North East partner colleges.

"Before this program, I never even considered applying to the University of Oxford... You have all helped me believe in myself."

Joe, Aim for Oxford Student

"Clear, concise information. Friendly atmosphere. Approachable members of staff that made everyone feel welcome - excellent all round!!"

Aim for Oxford Parent

STUDENT Q&A

Want to hear from current students at the University of Oxford?

Our trained Student Ambassadors represent a wide range of subjects and backgrounds.

Q&A sessions can be a standalone 30mins (e.g. on choosing a college, subject-specific advice, or general experience of university), or in added to any of the other workshops listed here for any age group.



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